

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 OMB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6385

INFO USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 7516

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, GQ

SUBJECT: 31ST UNGA: FOURTH COMMITTEE; ITEM 25: GUAM

REF STATE 281097

1. WE MET AT NOON TODAY (NOV 16) WITH THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS, NAJI MUFTI, TO DISCUSS THE FORTHCOMING VOTE IN THE FOURTH COMMITTEE OF A DRAFT RESOLUTION CONCERNING GUAM. WE EXPLAINED THE ISSUE TO HIM ALONG THE LINES OF PARAGRAPHS 3 AND 4 OF REFTTEL AND LEFT AN AIDE MEMOIRE BASED ON THAT MATERIAL.

2. MUFTI AGREED WITH THE CORRECTNESS OF OUR POSITION AS OUTLINED PARAGRAPH 3 AND WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE INFORMATION IN PARAGRAPH 4 AS BEING USEFUL IN WARDING OFF "NON-ALIGNED" PRESSURE TO GO ALONG WITH THE RESOLUTION. MUFTI SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THE SAG SHOULD SUPPORT THE US ON THIS QUESTION. BECAUSE OF SAG REGARD FOR NON-ALIGNED SENSIBILITIES, HE THOUGHT THIS SUPPORT WOULD BE MANIFESTED IN ABSTENTION RATHER THAN IN A VOTE AGAINST THE RESOLUTION. WE REQUESTED THAT THE SAG POSITION BE BASED ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ISSUE AND THAT IT SUPPORT US WITH A NEGATIVE
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VOTE. MUFTI WAS NON-COMMITTAL.

3. MUFTI SAID THAT HE APPRECIATED THE NEED FOR SPEED IN ISSUING INSTRUCTIONS AND THAT HE WOULD SEE THE ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER LATER IN THE DAY AND GET HIS APPROVAL OF INSTRUCTIONS SUPPORTING THE US POSITION TO BE SENT TO NEW YORK TODAY OR TOMORROW (NOVEMBER 17).

4. COMMENT: THIS IS THE KIND OF QUESTION ON WHICH WE CAN NORMALLY EXPECT AT LEAST PASSIVE SAUDI SUPPORT. WE BELIEVE THAT INSTRUCTIONS TO ABSTAIN ON THE VOTE WILL BE SENT TO THE SAUDI UN MISSION. WE HOPE THEY ARRIVE IN TIME. WE DO NOT PRESUME TO TELL USUN HOW BEST TO HANDLE THE PRICKLY MR. BAROODY BUT SUGGEST THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO INFORM THE SAUDI DELEGATION THAT WE HAVE RAISED THE QUESTION WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, FOUND UNDERSTANDING FOR OUR POSITION, AND HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT CONFIRMATION OF THIS SUPPORT WILL BE SENT TELEGRAPHICALLY TO THE SAUDI UN MISSION.
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